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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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The North Hamgyong Province National Pharmaceutical Factory

1. On 20 June 1953 the North Hamgyong Province National Pharmaceutical Factory was in a building at EB-661293 in Panjuk-ni, Ch'ongjin. The factory building was 10 meters long, 4 meters wide, and 2.5 meters high, with wooden walls and a tin roof. An office building, 7 meters long, 3 meters wide, and 2 meters high, with mud walls and a tin roof, was 6 meters southwest of the factory, and a laboratory, 6 meters long, 4 meters wide, and 2.5 meters high, with mud walls and a thatched roof, was 10 meters southwest of the office building. Glucose, distilled water, camphor, and Salvasan<sup>1</sup> injections were manufactured. The quality of the products was low and the medicines were said to have an after-effect on patients. Products were shipped to People's hospitals and pharmacies throughout North Korea.
2. The factory operated three shifts per day and employed approximately 60 men. One of the employees was CHI Chong-uk (3069/6297/2485), aged 35, a native of Ch'ongjin, a graduate of a pharmaceutical school in Manchuria, and formerly owner of his own pharmacy. Before 1950 CHI was manager of the factory, but after attempting to escape to South Korea he was imprisoned. He was later released and sent back to the factory because of his technical skill but was not in a managerial capacity.

The North Hamgyong Province National Tobacco Factory

3. On 20 June 1953 the North Hamgyong Province National Tobacco Factory, operated under the Ministry of Light Industry, was in three houses at EB-651285 in Panjuk-ni, Ch'ongjin. A wooden wall, 2 meters high, surrounded the houses, two of which constituted the factory. The third was used as an office building. A warehouse, 20 meters long, 8 meters wide, and 3 meters high, with brick walls and a tin roof, was approximately 300 meters northwest of the houses, at EB-649286. Raw tobacco leaves, received from both North Korea and Manchuria, were stored in the warehouse.

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4. Approximately 10 men and 30 women were employed in the factory which manufactured tobacco and cigarettes. Equipment consisted of a drying machine, a cutting machine, and a cigarette roller.

#### The Ch'ongjin National Thread Factory

5. On 10 June 1953 the Ch'ongjin National Thread Factory was in three houses at EB-664296 in Ch'ongjin. Each house was 15 meters long, 6 meters wide, and 3 meters high, with mud walls and a tin roof camouflaged with earth. The southwestern house was used for wool storage, and the other two housed the factory. An office building, 15 meters long, 8 meters wide, and 3 meters high, with mud walls and a tin roof, was 8 meters in front of the warehouse. The factory was equipped with spinning machines which had been taken from the Yongdungp'o Textile Factory during the North Korean occupation of Seoul. Spinning machines had also been obtained from the Ch'ongjin Textile Factory at EB-643257 which was established during the Japanese occupation and destroyed by United Nations air attacks. The weaving machines from the Ch'ongjin and the Yongdungp'o factories were sent to a textile factory in Manchuria.
6. The majority of the raw wool used at the factory was raised on a National Farm near Hwanggok-tong (N 41-03, E 129-27) (EA-3741), and the finished thread was transported to a textile factory in Manchuria where officers' uniforms were manufactured. The Ch'ongjin National Thread Factory processed all the wool raised in North Korea.
7. Approximately 20 clerks were employed in the office and 250 persons in the factory. The factory operated 24 hours a day in three shifts. CH'OE In-sun (1508/0088/8642), aged 45 and a member of the Korean Labor Party, was manager of the factory. CH'OE had been an active leftist since the Japanese occupation and was former chief of the Business Section of the North Hamgyong Province People's News Company.

#### The T'omak-dong Gold Mine

8. On 20 April 1953 a North Korean government-operated gold mine was at (N 41-51, E 129-49) (EB-673333), near T'omak-dong. This was one of the best gold mines in North Korea and was operated by Soviet troops from 1945 until the outbreak of the Korean war. In April 1953 Soviet technicians were still at the mine. The mine area was guarded by three North Korean Army military policemen who were posted on a road, north of the mine buildings. Civilians were prohibited from entering the mining installations.
9. Approximately 10 buildings were used to house the ore washing and other mining equipment. These buildings were damaged during a United Nations air attack in June 1952, but were immediately repaired. Approximately 100 laborers were employed at the mine. They received the same salary as an ordinary miner, but were given special Soviet clothing and extra food rations. The mine operated 24 hours a day, in three shifts.

#### The Ch'ongjin Steel Mill

10. On 20 April 1953 the Ch'ongjin Steel Mill, formerly at EB-650243 in Ch'ongjin but looted in 1945 by Soviet troops who sent most of the machinery out of the country, was at EB-673333 near the T'omak-dong (N 41-51, E 129-49) (EB-6733) Gold Mine. The mill had been rebuilt in Ch'ongjin, but was destroyed by United Nations air attacks. The salvaged machinery was then sent to Manchuria or to the T'omak-dong area. In the latter place a small steel mill was set up which manufactured farm equipment and tools for the No. 5 National Farm at Musan, and pickaxes and shovels to be used for rehabilitation work on the Ch'ongjin Airfield. A hospital for employees of the mill was in a building, 10 meters long, 7 meters wide, and 3 meters high, at EB-683344 in T'omak-dong. This

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hospital was also used by employees of the gold mine, North Korean troops and civilians.

11. There were approximately 100 technicians and staff members assigned to the mill. The chief of the Repair Section was IM Won-song (2651/0337/2052), aged 45, a native of Seoul, a member of the Korean Labor Party (KLP), and a graduate of an industrial school in Japan. The hospital was staffed with 2 doctors, 5 assistant doctors, and 10 nurses. The manager of the hospital was CHANG Ha-kyu (1728/3109/1145), [redacted] a member of the KLP, a graduate of the P'yongyang Medical College, and a specialist in internal medicine.

1. [redacted] Comment. Salvarsan was probably intended.

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